

# WVPBRN & COMMUNITY NEWS

A monthly newsletter brought to you by the Community Engagement Core of the West Virginia Clinical and Translational Science Institute

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## **SPOTLIGHT: WVPBRN participated in analytic support training**

On September 29, several WVPBRN partners participated in a 3-hour health analytics session presented to WV Primary Care Association clinical members. This session was taught by Traci Jarrett, Ph.D., clinic and community liaison, and Adam Baus, Ph.D., assistant director, both of the Office of Health Services Research at West Virginia University. Attendees included Tug River Health Association, Camden Family Health, Coplin Health Systems, FamilyCare HealthCenter, Rainelle Medical Center, and Robert C. Byrd Clinic, as well as Saint George Medical and a Virginia-based clinic. This was the third consecutive year this training was provided.

The session included guidance through the fundamentals of electronic health record data collection, data quality, application of data to quality of care improvement, population health, and practice-based research. Participants had the opportunity to share information on successes, challenges, and lessons learned using electronic health records data for patient care and population health. Participant engagement in conversation throughout the training was strong, with some site-level follow-up planned to address specific health analytics needs.

This session was part of a series of leadership development sessions run by the WVU College of Business and Economics in partnership with the WV Primary Care Association.

## **Health disparities group welcomes new associate director**

The Health Disparities Working Group is a collaborative group of health disparities investigators from across the West Virginia University (WVU). Areas of investigation include opioid addiction, economic disparities, tobacco/smoking, and oral health.

Stephenie Kennedy, Ed.D., associate director for cancer prevention and control with the WVU Cancer Institute and research assistant professor with the WVU School of Medicine, has been named associate director of the health disparities program at WVU.

Dr. Kennedy was appointed to this position by Sally Hodder, M.D., director of the health disparities program and associate vice president of clinical and translational research at WVU, and director of the West Virginia Clinical and Translational Science Institute.

Dr. Kennedy brings a wealth of experience in addressing cancer-related health disparities to the position, as well as her work in health literacy, Appalachian culture, and reaching rural, medically underserved populations. In this position, she looks forward to expanding her work to further address the health problems that disproportionately affect West Virginians thereby improving the health profile of the state.

Dr. Kennedy will oversee the growth and development of health disparities research. She will establish and expand partnerships across West Virginia and Appalachia to stimulate health disparities research and programming relevant to the region.

"I am honored to serve in this position and build on my experience in cancer prevention and control," said Kennedy. "We must produce research and programs that address health disparities to improve health outcomes and quality of life for the people of West Virginia."

Dr. Kennedy's appointment was effective August 1.

Any questions or ideas regarding the Health Disparities Working Group can be directed to Andrew Denny, [adenny1@hsc.wvu.edu](mailto:adenny1@hsc.wvu.edu).

## **REMINDER: Upcoming Fall Events**

October 19-21, 2016 [WV Rural Health Conference](#) at Chief Logan Lodge

\*October 20 at 6:30p.m. - WVPBRN networking dinner at Chief Logan Lodge Restaurant

November 17-18, 2016 [Appalachian Translational Research Network Summit](#) at

University of Cincinnati, Center for Clinical and Translational Science and Training

December 1-2, 2016 [WVCTSI Annual Meeting](#) at Stonewall Resort

## **West Virginia Practice-Based Research Network**

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